

REMARKS

The Office Action of September 11, 2003, has been carefully considered. Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 2 from which all claims depend to more particularly point out applicant's invention. Before turning to the details of the claims, it is believed that a short discussion of the nature and purpose of applicant's invention would be in order. Applicant wished to devise a device which would be capable of embossing a plurality of separated three dimensional ornamental designs along an inner or outer surface of a raw clay pottery bowl. He accomplished this goal by providing a pair of blocks, a press block and a die block. The die block has a three dimensional embossed ornamental design in a recessed die cavity in the die block. The press block has a corresponding shape which doesn't have to have an ornamental design in it but should be generally the same shape of the embossed ornamental recess. The two pieces are pressed against the inner and outer surface to form the embossed ornamental design in the surface of the pottery.

The examiner rejected Claims 1-6 as anticipated by Clark. Clark is a device which forms a ring around the top of a can. This ring is a two dimensional indentation in the sidewall of the can adjacent the top. Applicant's claims as amended call for an apparatus for embossing a plurality of separated three dimensional ornamental designs on a raw clay sidewall of a pottery bowl. It utilizes a die block having a recessed die cavity in the shape of a three dimensional embossed ornamental design. Clearly, Clark does not utilize any die block with a three dimensional embossed ornamental design. As set forth in MPEP §706.02:

"In other words for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. 102, the reference must teach every aspect of the claimed invention,

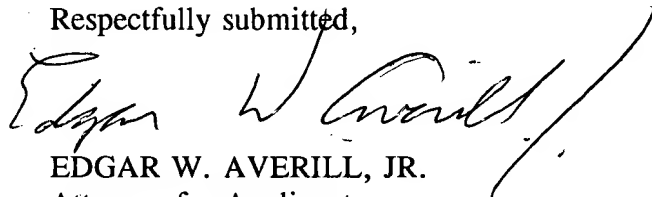
either explicitly or impliedly. Any feature not directly taught
must be inherently present."

Clark clearly does not have, for instance, a die block having a recessed die cavity in the shape of a three dimensional embossed ornamental design. The examiner refers to the die block having a design 51. 51 in Clark, however, is simply a wheel which does not contain a three dimensional embossed ornamental design.

The examiner rejected Claims 1-6 as anticipated by Bock. The recessed die cavity 52 in Bock does not contain a three dimensional embossed ornamental design. Furthermore, Claim 1 has been amended to require that the die block be fabricated without a movable central portion. The die block shown in Bock has a movable central portion 52 and, thus, Claims 1 to 6 are not anticipated by Bock.

It is believed that Claims 1-9 as amended are allowable and allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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